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LETTER DATED 7 JUNE 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF ARGENTINA, CANADA, FRANCE, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Friends of the Secretary-General on the question of Haiti have the honour to request that the text of the enclosed statement be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Louise FRECHETTE
Permanent Representative of
Canada to the United Nations

(Signed) Madeleine K. ALBRIGHT
Permanent Representative of the
United States of America to the
United Nations

(Signed) Jean-Bernard MÉRIMÉE
Permanent Representative of
France to the United Nations

(Signed) Enrique TEJERA-PARIS
Permanent Representative of
Venezuela to the United Nations

(Signed) Emilio J. CARDENAS
Permanent Representative of
Argentina to the United Nations

Annex

[Original: English]

Statement of conclusions adopted by the meeting of the Friends of the Secretary-General on Haiti, held in New York on 3 June 1994

1. Representatives of the Friends of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the question of Haiti (Argentina, Canada, France, the United States of America and Venezuela) met in New York on 3 June 1994 in the presence of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in order to examine ways to find an end to the Haitian crisis.

2. The Friends reiterated their unequivocal determination to bring about the rapid return of President Aristide, and to restore constitutional order in the country as provided for in the Governors Island Agreement. They fully agreed that the central obstacle to this objective remains the refusal of the military authorities to carry out their obligations. The Friends called on the Haitian military and its latest purported government to surrender power immediately.

3. They condemned the ongoing and systematic violation of human rights for which these authorities are fully responsible. They expressed their full support for all democratic forces in Haiti and warned against further acts of violence and intimidation against them.

4. In view of the continued intransigence of the military authorities, the Friends expressed their strong commitment to make fully effective and to maintain firmly in place the current sanctions regime.

5. In this regard, the Friends welcomed the decision by the Dominican Republic to take immediate action to seal its land border with Haiti and its request for international technical assistance to this end. The Friends expressed their readiness to assist the Dominican Republic in carrying out this goal.

6. The Friends also welcomed the decision by the Dominican Republic to enhance maritime cooperation to combat contraband to and from Haiti. To this end, they agreed to pursue with the maritime interdiction force, currently enforcing the international embargo outside Haitian waters, immediate and concrete ways it could work with the Dominican authorities.

7. The Friends expressed their readiness to consider, on a national basis, further measures such as suspension of commercial air flights, as recommended by the Organization of American States in June 1993, and banning international financial transactions.

8. The Friends expressed their deep concern for the plight of the Haitian people in the absence of a solution to the crisis. They agreed to continue to provide substantial humanitarian assistance to meet the needs of the poorest population.

9. The Friends recognized that, following the departure of the Military High Command and the return of President Aristide, considerable support will be necessary to assist in the full restoration of democracy and the process of national reconciliation.

10. In this context, they underlined the importance of free, fair and constitutional elections as an essential element towards the restoration and consolidation of democracy in Haiti. The Friends agreed to begin without delay contingency planning with a view to providing all possible assistance in this process.

11. They equally agreed to explore concrete ways to provide assistance for the strengthening of an independent judiciary and democratic institutions.

12. The Friends agreed to review, update and exchange information on their bilateral cooperation and assistance projects, and to promote similar action in relevant multilateral organizations, including financial institutions, with a view to providing assistance to a reinstated democratic government.

13. Finally, the Friends expressed their determination to promote the full redeployment of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) when conditions permit. To this end, they envisage the reconfiguration and strengthening of this mission, and invite the Secretariat to take appropriate measures in order to prepare for the quick return of UNMIH to Haiti.

14. The Friends supported the establishment of an active communications campaign, which would include the use of a radio station, directed at promoting democracy in Haiti.

15. The Friends thank the Secretary-General of the United Nations and his Special Envoy, Mr. Dante Caputo, for their untiring efforts and reaffirm their full support to them.

16. The Friends will continue to consult closely with President Aristide as they work towards his return and the restoration of democracy in Haiti.